



## FCCLA SPOTLIGHT ON STELLA EDWARDS

Stella Edwards from the Conrad chapter is a member who is always up for helping any person. She is willing to lend a hand and always likes to help those around her. She has been a great help to me in my chapter. Stella is always there to help and is willing to do whatever you ask her to do.

~Brylee Stordhal

## FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Hey Montana FCCLA! As the holiday season approaches, I wanted to give some ideas for your chapter to give back to your community! Some activities that may be beneficial to your community may include: visiting nursing homes, holding drives for toys, blankets, food, etc. shoveling sidewalks, hosting a holiday dinner/banquet, or a traveling bake sale! Make sure to post your holiday service projects and tag @fcclamontana to be featured on our instagram page!! I hope you all have a great Holiday!!  
~Lauren Plagenz, Montana FCCLA President

**Who do you know that inspires others and makes a difference? Consider nominating them for the monthly FCCLA Spotlight at [this link](#)**

CONNECT WITH US!



## IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR STAR EVENTS!

Hello Competitors! I hope you have picked a project and you are enjoying it. I just want to remind all of you that to make your projects less stressful you should be making a schedule or "to do" list so you have something to follow and you won't forget all of the specific requirements for your project.

You also need to be communicating with your advisor and scheduling a good time for your advisor and you to work on your project. When you communicate and set up specific times to work on your project it will help you to be more productive and less stressed. It will also honor your advisor's time, especially when you arrive prepared. Remember, your advisor is probably helping several students and has many other responsibilities too.

Once the display or portfolio is finished, you still need to create your oral presentation, and you should plan to work on that for several hours and then practice repeatedly. The sooner you complete your project, the more time you will have to perfect it, and the less stressed you and your advisor will be when it's time to compete in March.

~Emma Harrison

Vice President of Competitive Events



## FAMILIES

## FIRST

### NATIONAL PROGRAM SHOWCASE

While every family is different, every family can get stronger. That's what the National FCCLA Program Families First is all about! Learn strategies to help make your family even better through interactive and engaging activities in this curriculum. Your 2023-25 State Executive Council is excited to announce Families First will be the Montana FCCLA State Outreach Project in 2024-25. Members interested in learning more should ask their advisor to sign them up for the State Outreach Training at State Leadership Conference.

### SAVE THE DATE FOR SLC 2024!

The 2024 Montana FCCLA State Leadership Conference is just around the corner! Mark your calendar for March 14-15 and make plans to see us in Bozeman! Meet our keynote speaker, Cody Byrnes, and hear his story. LTT Brooklyn. Gross is joining us again to present, and it's your opportunity to earn a spot at the National Leadership Conference in Seattle through STAR Events competitions. Advisers--don't miss the December 19 webinar with all the SLC details!





## MONTANA FCCLA AWARD OPPORTUNITIES

Montana FCCLA has so many amazing members, advisers, and chapters. Please take a moment to review the different awards that will be presented at our State Leadership Conference, March 14-15.

## MEMBER AWARDS

LAST YEAR'S WINNERS

Who do you know that inspires YOU to be better? The Ultimate Leader Award recognizes chapter members inspires others to want to get extraordinary things done in an organization. They exhibit exemplary leadership by modeling the way, Inspiring a shared vision, challenging the process, enabling other to act; an encouraging the heart.

Montana FCCLA supports our graduates who are headed to their next adventure through the Leadership and Service Scholarship, recognizing members with a strong record of both leadership and service, and the Competitive Event Scholarship, recognizing members who have actively participated in Montana FCCLA Competitive Events for three or more years. Deadlines for all Montana FCCLA award applications is February 15. Additional scholarship opportunities are available through FCCLA at the national level. Confirmed ProStart schools can also offer additional opportunities to their students! ProStart Leadership and Service Scholarships are awarded to students demonstrating leadership and service in their ProStart programs, and the ProStart Ultimate Leader Award recognizes standout leaders who inspire others in their programs. Applications are found on the ProStart website and are due February 15.



## CHAPTER AWARDS



Chapters can also earn recognition! Chapters are recognized for membership growth at SLC, in addition to these awards:

- STAR Chapter Program--recognizes chapters for a well-rounded program of work
- Service Hall of Fame--be sure your chapter is submitting service hours to earn this recognition
- Vision Zero Awards--win cash prizes for your chapter's traffic safety project (due March 1)
- Financial Fitness State Awards--win cash prizes for your chapter's State Outreach Project related to Financial Fitness





## MONTANA FCCLA AWARD OPPORTUNITIES, CONTINUED...

LAST YEAR'S WINNERS

### ADULT AWARDS

Your chapter adviser is the best, right? So why wouldn't you go ahead and nominate them for recognition?! Find the description that fits your adviser the best, click the link, and get that application submitted by February 15. It's that easy!

- New Adviser of the Year recognizes an adviser with five years of experience or less who invests in professional development and while building a strong chapter.
- Adviser of the Year Recognizes a chapter adviser who inspires members to achieve their goals and build a strong program.
- Spirit of Advising recognizes chapter advisers who are constantly faithful, often quietly working behind the scenes to ensure the success of their students. Nominations may be made by anyone who works with FCCLA Advisers
- ProStart Educator of Excellence recognizes a confirmed ProStart educator who goes above and beyond in the ProStart program.
- The Master Adviser Award recognizes advisers who have been successful in: advising an affiliated chapter for a minimum of three years, promoting the organization, operating an integrated chapter with a balanced program of work, facilitating youth-centered activities, and keeping abreast of new happenings within the organization.
- The Adviser Mentor Award recognizes advisers who have been successful in: achieving Master Adviser Recognition, devoting two years to new adviser assistance, assuming adult leadership roles in FCCLA, conducting adviser workshops, attending training workshops, and using national and state FCCLA resources.

The Master Adviser and Adviser Mentor awards are offered at the national level. Nominate your adviser (or a fellow adviser) through the FCCLA membership portal by February 1.



### NEW! ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Alumni Achievement Award recognizes a past member of Montana FCCLA who exemplifies the mission and/or purposes of FCCLA and has used his/her experiences to excel in his/her family, career or community. Nominate a Montana FCCLA alumni [here](#).





## DISTRICT MEETING PHOTOS



## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWLY ELECTED DISTRICT OFFICERS!



### District 1:

President: Ava Krings  
 Vice President: Alison Nau  
 Secretary: Adreana Suganob  
 Parliamentarian: Jackson Taylor  
 Recreational Leader: Gabriel Bouttier

### District 2:

President: Kiarra Michalson  
 Secretary: Aislynn Gifford

### District 3/9:

President: Maddy Johnson  
 Secretary: Lexie Wichman  
 Parliamentarian: Adysen Cundiff  
 Treasurer: Malikai Aminkeng  
 Recreational Leader: Jace Nees

### District 4:

President: Frankie Struck  
 Vice President: Emily Brandenburg  
 Secretary: Tatiana McAlister  
 Parliamentarian: Brynna Schacht  
 Historian: Addy Purkett

### District 5:

President: Jodi Gibson  
 Vice President: Kali Dulin  
 Secretary: Isabelle Fry  
 Treasurer: Morgan Nelson  
 Parliamentarian: Bailee Wirtzfeld  
 Recreation/Song Leader: Luca Helvik  
 Historian: Adilyn Baxter

### District 6/7:

President: Natalie Seitzinger  
 Vice President: Hailey Warner  
 Secretary: Lucie Williams  
 Recreation/Song Leader: Meadow Smith

### District 8:

President: Trinity Anderson  
 Vice President: Aryanna Tracy  
 2nd Vice President: Ryan Halverson  
 VP of National Programs: Reegan Roseleip  
 VP of Technology: Gracie Baker  
 Secretary/Treasurer: Alexa Nelson

### District 10:

President: Jill Baumgardner  
 Secretary: Hannah Mumion  
 Treasurer: Addi Gaugler

### District 11:

President: Aiden Kramer  
 Secretary: Kaycee Pilon

**District Officer  
 Trainings:  
 January 9 at 7AM  
 February 6 at 7AM**

## DISTRICT MEETING PHOTOS



## WELCOME TO OUR NEWLY AFFILIATED CHAPTERS!

Congratulations and welcome to the following chapters who have affiliated for the 2023-24 membership year!

Arlee	Belgrade	Columbia
Conrad	Flathead	Hot Springs
Laurel	Medicine Lake	Sidney
Sheridan		

## NATIONAL OFFICER CANDIDATE OPPORTUNITY!

Are you an active FCCLA member who is ready to engage at the next level? Consider applying to be the next National FCCLA Officer! Full details and forms are on the [website](#). Apply by February 15.

## DISTRICT 5 MEETING RECAP

The District 5 meeting was held on November 14 in Glendive, Montana at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. We started our meeting with an icebreaker and our keynote speaker Briana Berg. We went into six different workshops: a dance workshop, Financial Fitness, Teen Traffic Safety, a service workshop, strategic planning, and STAR Events. We want to extend a huge thank you to Sheila Cozzie with the Montana Department of Transportation for presenting a workshop and providing \$500 toward our meal expenses.

After all of our amazing workshops we held our officer elections and I am so excited to announce that the new District 5 Officer Team; President: Jodi Gibson, Garfield County; Vice President: Kali Dulin, Plevna; Secretary: Isabelle Fry, Fairview; Treasurer: Morgan Nelson, Wibaux; Parliamentarian: Bailee Wirtzfeld, Wibaux; Recreational Leader: Luca Helvik, Wibaux; Historian: Adilyn Baxter, Fairview. I know District 5 is in good hands and I cannot wait to see everything they accomplish. I think it is safe to say the District 5 Meeting of 2023 was a success.

~Emma Harrison, VP of Competitive Events





## GRANT DEADLINES EXTENDED!



We are pleased to announce the grant application deadlines for both the Financial Fitness and Vision Zero outreach projects have been extended through December 18. See the flyers later in the newsletter for more details.

## COMING UP!

**December 18: Financial Fitness State Outreach Project Grant applications due**

**December 18: Vision Zero Outreach Project Grant applications due**

**December 18: Montana Week of Service Grant applications due**

**December 19: State Leadership Conference Webinar for advisers AND SLC Registration Packet is available on the website**

**December 22: Chapter adviser summit regular registration closes**

**January 1: Community Service Project Grant applications due**

**January 25-27, 2024: Chapter Adviser Summit (Seattle, WA)**

## MONTANA FCCLA WEEK OF SERVICE GRANTS!



Montana FCCLA is has partnered with Youth Service America to offer chapter mini-grants to support local service outreach projects. Chapters may apply for. up to \$200 to fund local projects with some component of the project happening between January 15-22, in honor of MLK Day of Service. . Applications are due by December 18. Check out the flyer later in this newsletter for full details.

## CULINARY CORNER

Why do students choose to become ProStart members? Over 15,000 students were asked what did they learn from ProStart, and this is what they said:

- Time management
- Culinary techniques
- Communications
- Restaurant principles
- Teamwork
- Professionalism
- Decision making



Sound like something you're interested in? Visit with your advisor or reach out to our State ProStart Coordinator, Jordan Collins at [jordan@mtfccla.org](mailto:jordan@mtfccla.org).

Thank you to all of the educators who attended our Culinary Training in Helena! We look forward to putting more trainings on for you soon!







TO OUR FRIENDS OF MONTANA FCCLA,

*Happy Holidays!*

2022-23 STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

We are grateful for your support in 2023 and look forward to seeing you in 2024.



**MONTANA**  
STATE ASSOCIATION

Enjoy your holiday season

# Montana FCCLA Week of Service

## Make a Difference--Statewide!

Montana FCCLA has partnered with Youth Service America (YSA) to offer chapter mini-grants for community outreach projects held in conjunction with MLK Day of Service. All chapters are encouraged to participate and make a positive difference statewide!

## Chapter Mini-Grant Project Requirements

- Chapter must be affiliated with Montana FCCLA
- Up to \$200 may be awarded to support supplies for a project addressing a need in the chapter's local community
- At least one component of the project must take place between January 15-22, the Montana FCCLA Week of Service

Apply for your chapter's grant by 12/18

## Expand Your Participants

- Projects must be youth-led and:
- Engage middle and high-school aged students
  - Include non-members, students from low-income and diverse backgrounds, and students who are not usually asked to participate

## All The Details

November 22-December 18: Applications accepted on our [website](#)  
December 18: Application results announced  
January 23: Final report, photos, and receipts due.  
Payments will be issued by late February. Email [director@mtfccla.org](mailto:director@mtfccla.org) with any questions.





# 2023-24 MONTANA FCCLA STATE OUTREACH PROJECT

Apply for  
your  
chapter's  
grant by  
12/18



**Financial Fitness is FCCLA's National Program  
designed to help members learn about:**

EARNING



SPENDING



SAVING



PROTECTING



Montana is currently ranked 29/50 states in terms of financial literacy access  
(source: Montana Office of Public Instruction).

Improved education results in better financial options for  
Montana individuals and families.

Although the Class of 2026 is required to complete a financial literacy course  
before graduation, Montana FCCLA has the tools ready now to teach others  
about earning, spending, saving, and protecting their finances.

Chapters can apply for mini-grants of \$200 to help chapters develop and implement projects to help  
others better understand financial management. Chapters completing the final report about their  
efforts are eligible to win cash awards of \$500, \$300 or \$200!

Chapters may also apply to receive FREE Financial Fitness curriculum!  
(Advisers: contact Tracey to request the curriculum for your chapter)

Visit the [Montana FCCLA Website](#) for more information,  
project ideas, and to apply for grants by December 1

This State Outreach Project is possible through the support of BlueCross  
BlueShield of Montana and the Montana Financial Education Coalition



BlueCross BlueShield  
of Montana



**MFEC**  
Montana Financial  
Education Coalition



# EVER WONDER HOW YOU CAN EDUCATE OTHERS ABOUT TRAFFIC SAFETY?



Apply for your chapter's grant by 12/18

## NOW'S YOUR CHANCE TO FIND OUT

# 2023-24 VISION ZERO

Fund your project to help you and your peers reduce distracted driving with a Vision Zero grant!

Priority application deadline: November 17  Final grant application deadline: December 1  
Visit [mtfccla.org](http://mtfccla.org) for full details

The percentage of crashes involving young drivers has not changed significantly during the past 19 years.

Texting while driving has the same effect on reaction time as consuming four beers in a single hour.

Inattentiveness, carelessness, and driving speed accounted for over 50% of the crashes in the past 10 years.

Offered through a partnership between the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) and the Montana Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA)  
Questions? Contact Sheila Cozzie, 406-444-7301 [scozzie@mt.gov](mailto:scozzie@mt.gov)

